

5, THE HARIDASA MOVEMENT: OTHER DASAS

PURANDARADASA Is the most Important figure among Haridasas, but like Basavaiina among the Siva-saranas he was one of a large group of like-minded people. Narahari Tirtha, the reputed originator of the movement, and Kanakadasa—believed to have been a contemporary of Purandaradasa—have been mentioned earlier. Well-known successors of these are Vijayadasa, Jagannathadasa and Gopaladasa. Other singers are named in the tradition and pieces attributed to them occasionally sung. Some songs of these teachers have to be studied to get an idea of the work of the group.

The following pieces are from a song composed by Narahari Tirtha. It is probably the first he composed. The sentiment and expression are worthy of the beginner of the Haridasa movement.

"In words I have been God's servant, and greatly learned in discourse; the mind has, however, loved money and wordly pleasure and wronged God and the teachers and felt no fear,

**As the years have passed I have grown more covetous and am loading myself with error; I have gathered stone and shell like a child and given up the shield of life.

"For whom is it, soul, that you are so anxious? For whom do you hoard this wealth? Wife and children, friend and others, none of them will go with you when you leave the world.

"For giving in charity a pie has been a thousand; for improper expenditure a crore has

been a pie; in doing
good you have felt no interest, in doing
evil awake and
active.